Proposal to impose restriction on export of cotton

617. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to impose restriction on the export of cotton to meet the demands of domestic textile industries as they are facing shortage as out of 325 lakh bales of cotton production in 2007-08, the quantity available for domestic textile sector was around 240 lakh bales only;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated requirement of cotton in textile industry in the country at present;

(d) whether cotton is being imported every year in large quantities; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) During cotton season 2007-08, Government proposed quantitative restriction on cotton export till 30th September, 2008, in view of reported sudden surge in the export of raw cotton, to ensure smooth availability for domestic textile industries to the required level.

(c) As per CAB, the estimated requirement of Cotton in Textile industry in the country at present is 241 lakh bales (of 170 kgs. each).

(d) and (e) The import of raw cotton is very meager, and limited to 5.5 lakh bales (of 170 kgs. each) which predominantly comprises Extra Long Staple.

Revival of NJMC Mills

618. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to revive National Jute Manufactures Corporation (NJMC) mills under public-private partnership model; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) Government is considering a proposal to revive 3 mills of NJMC Ltd. under Public Private Partnership. Details are yet to be finalized. Proposal for revival of NJMC is under consideration of Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction.

Weavers committing suicide in Andhra Pradesh

†619. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the reports of suicides being committed by the weavers in Andhra Pradesh due to starvation and indebtedness have been received;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi